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INFORMATION REPORT

25X1A
CD NO.

COUNTRY USSR

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DATE DISTR. 14 JUL 49

SUBJECT Chemical Factories Producing for Military
25X1A and Civilian Consumption

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(LISTED BELOW)SUPPLEMENT TO
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1. Dzerzhinsk (56°15'N, 43°24'E) is the site of what is believed to be the largest factory in the USSR for the manufacture of acids used in military production.* Nitrogen, nitrous acid, sulphuric acid, ammonia, chlorine, and phosgene are among the items produced. The factory lies on both sides of a railway line and is split into three component plants bearing the names Kalinin, Zavod (sic), and Yava. Until recently, the installation was working at only 50 percent of capacity. Most of the factory units are connected with each other by underground passages.
2. In another report, the same source states that an underground plant at Dzerzhinsk is currently engaged in the production of a lung irritant gas, possibly phosgene. Personnel at the plant wear respirators while working. Salts apparently used in the production or processing of the chemical warfare agents are unloaded at the river harbors of Gorki and Dzerzhinsk by forced laborers who occasionally work in shifts as long as 20 hours. The salts are carried up the Volga to the harbors in barges.
3. Another poison gas plant is located at Gorlovka (48°13'N, 38°02'E). This plant, known as the Atse Factory,** employs 500 special workers and is said to be approximately one kilometer long (sic).
4. According to another report from the same source, the Novo Gorlovka nitrogen and saltpeter plant, which lies near the Karl Marx Mine, employs approximately 4,000 workers.
5. The chemical factory at Kemerovo (55°30'N, 84°55'E), in the Novosibirsk district, covers an area of 2 1/2 to 3 square kilometers and consists of 15 large buildings. Both acids and synthetic rubber are produced here. The machinery of the synthetic rubber plant formerly belonged to the IG Farben Buna plant at Oswiecim (Auschwitz). Kemerovo, which has a population of 200,000, is a typical Soviet penal city, strongly guarded by MVD troops. The factories there are operated not only by Soviet women but also by female deportees from Eastern Germany.
6. Other chemical warfare works are said to be located as follows:
 - a. South of Baketovka, which is south of Stalingrad.***

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- b. At Georgiyevsk, in the Caucasus.
- c. Between Sevastopol and the submarine harbor at Balaklava.
17. It is reported that a type of 45-ton tank, complete with attachments for the spraying of chemical warfare agents, is being manufactured at Kharkov.
8. The Sestroretsk chemical plant on Lake Ladoga is reported to employ approximately 10,000 workers. Sulphur and petroleum are processed for military purposes.
9. The chemical plant at Yenakievo (48°14'N, 38°13'E), 40 kilometers from Gorlovka, produces acids of military importance. No further details are known concerning the plant.
10. Phosphorus products are processed in a plant at Krasnoarmeisk, near Stalingrad. A similar plant is located near Tallinn, Estonia; a narrow-gauge railway and a highway connect this plant with the city.
11. Plans have been drawn up for the construction of a large nitrogen plant at Cherepovets, a city of approximately 60,000 inhabitants on Lake Rybinsk.
12. The chemical plant at Tashkent, which is only one of 14 large factories in the city, is reported to be one of the most important chemical installations in the Soviet Union.
13. The Rtishchevo chemical factory, northwest of Saratov, is believed to be engaged in the processing of mercury products from the nearby quicksilver mines.
14. The Osotna (sic) Zavod at Smolanka, a suburb of Stalino (47°58'N, 37°45'E) in the Donets Basin, produces, among other things, sodium carbonate. Approximately 2,500 workers are employed at the plant.
15. The city of Asbest (57°02'N, 61°30'E), which has a population of approximately 60,000 and lies some 70 kilometers northeast of Sverdlovsk, contains four factories for the processing of asbestos. The miners in the local asbestos pits each bring up an average of 80 kg. of asbestos per eight-hour working day. A large number of the miners suffer from an ailment similar to silicosis. The factories in the city produce asbestos plates, drive-belts, insulators, and garments. Other Soviet asbestos-processing factories are located at Kramatorsk (Donets Basin) and Voskresensk (between Moscow and Rzhnev).
16. The Soviet chemical plants receive most of their machinery from the Uralmashzavod at Sverdlovsk, which, with the possible exception of the plant at Kramatorsk, is the most important machine factory in the Soviet Union. The chemical industry suffers acutely from a shortage of spare parts for its machinery. A factory which produces spare parts exclusively for chemical plant machinery is located at Kemerovo.
17. The chemical plants at the following places, in contrast with those described above, process chemicals which are principally used for civilian purposes:
 - a. Kaluga, Tula Oblast: Center of Russian paraffin production; equipped with American cranes and high-pressure boilers in 1945.
 - b. Kokand, Uzbekistan: Superphosphate fertilizer plant.
 - c. Kramatorsk, Donets Basin: Sodium carbonate plant.
 - d. Krasnodar, Kuban region: Sodium carbonate plant.
 - e. Kunda, Estonian SSR: Plant manufacturing ichthyol preparations.
 - f. Lisichansk, Donets Basin: Sodium carbonate plant.

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- g. Novorossiysk: Pharmaceutical plant.
 - h. Minsk: Pharmaceutical plant.
 - i. Riga: Artificial fertilizer plant.
 - j. Slavyansk, Donets Basin: Sodium carbonate plant.
 - k. Vorkhne, Donets Basin: Before the war this city of 80,000 inhabitants contained the largest soda factory in the USSR.***** The plant was 50 percent destroyed during the war, but has since been entirely restored. The sodium carbonate here is produced not by the Le Blanc process but by the ammonia method.
 - l. Vladimir, northeast of Moscow: Sodium carbonate plant.*****
 - m. Zaporozhe: Artificial fertilizer plant.
13. Chemical plants are located in the following cities, but no details are available as to the products manufactured:
- a. Akkerman, at the mouth of the Dniester.
 - b. Baila, approximately five kilometers northeast of Tighina on the Kotyma River, Moldavia.
 - c. Bobruisk, southeast of Minsk.
 - d. Izmailovsky district of Moscow.
 - e. Kropotkin (also known as Kavskoye), Krasnodar Oblast.
 - f. Lugansk, Donets region.
 - g. Morshansk, Tambov Oblast.
 - h. Orsk, southern Urals.
 - i. Rakydyanka (sic), southern Urals.
 - j. Troitsk, southern Urals.*****
 - k. Chkalov, southern Urals.
 - l. Tushino, approximately 12 kilometers west of Moscow on the Moskva River.

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Comments:

*For a previous report on the Gorki Chemical Combine, with three branches at or near Dzerzhinsk, 25X1A

**A previous report from a former German PW gave the name of the factory as Attasee. This informant described the factory as being located 3-4 km NE of Gorlovka, on a small hill, and directly on a highway. The buildings, four to five stories high, were screened from the highway by a wall three meters high and were surrounded on the other three sides by barbed wire. The grounds were guarded by Soviet troops and passes were required for entry. Informant believed that war gas was being produced and reported that the chimneys emitted a brilliant yellow smoke. A great deal of coal cinder and a greenish clayey substance were discharged as waste in the vicinity of the factory. A small river flowing by the factory carried dark greenish-blue waste water and gave off a disagreeable odor. Six large irrigation ditches existed within the factory grounds. An unidentified coal mine lay east of the factory. The factory was in operation in October 1947.

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Comments: (continued)

***Probably Plant No. 91.

****Possibly the Syasstroil cellulose plant.

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*****For a previous report on the Donsoda plant at Verkhne:

25X1A *****Although source lists this factory among those engaged in production for civilian consumption, para. 8, reported a German poison gas expert at this location and added that anti-gas equipment was produced at Vladimir before the war.

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